IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A dielectric composition comprising a mixture of :

a ceramic composition containing $Ba_aRE_bTi_cO_3$, wherein RE represents a rare earth element, with $0.05 \leq a \leq 0.25$, $0.525 \leq b \leq 0.70$, $0.85 \leq c \leq 1.0$, and $2a + 3b + 4c = 6$, and free from lead and bismuth,

a glass composition comprising SiO_2, a bivalent metal oxide chosen from the group consisting of MgO and ZnO and at least 10% by weight with respect to the glass composition of a further metal oxide ~~chosen from the group~~ consisting of Li_2O ~~and TiO_2~~, said glass composition substantially free from boron, and

a metal oxide which is different from the bivalent metal oxide present in the glass composition,

said dielectric composition comprising greater than 10% to about 25% Li_2O by weight.

2. (previously amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the metal oxide in the dielectric composition is an oxide of a metal chosen from the group consisting of magnesium, zinc, copper, manganese, cobalt, iron, nickel, erbium, holmium, indium, dysprosium, tungsten and yttrium.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 3, wherein the glass composition essentially consists of 50-80% by weight of SiO_2 [[,]] and 5-25% by weight of MgO~~, and 10-25% by weight of Li_2O, wherein said composition is substantially free from boron~~.

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (previously amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the glass composition is present in an amount of 3 to less than about 5% by weight with respect to the ceramic composition.

8-14. (canceled)